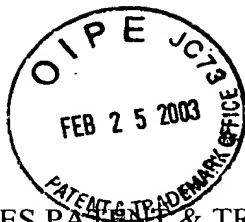


193176US-2



#7/A
smc
4/12/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :
SATORU FURUTA :
SERIAL NO. : 09/599,367 :
FILED: JUNE 21, 2000 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2745
FOR: NOISE SUPPRESSION :
APPARATUS :

RECEIVED
FEB 26 2003
Technology Center 2600

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as indicated below.¹

A'

$$r_{\alpha} = \begin{cases} \alpha_{MAX} & ; snr_{all} \geq SNR_h \\ \{(\alpha_{MAX} - \alpha_{MIN})snr_{all} + (SNR_h \alpha_{MIN} + SNR_l \alpha_{MAX})\} / (SNR_h - SNR_l) & ; SNR_h > snr_{all} \geq SNR_l \\ \alpha_{MIN} & ; SNR_l > snr_{all} \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

Page 15, please amend the equation at line 19 as follows:

¹A marked-up copy of the amendments is attached hereto.